

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A settlement system ~~in which, when a buyer orders merchandise for a seller, an order intake agent receives an order for the merchandise placed by the buyer and payment for the merchandise on behalf of the seller,~~ comprising:

an order placing device for storing order information ~~inclusive of such~~ including merchandise information ~~as to specify~~ specifying the merchandise that the buyer orders; and

an order-intake agent device ~~whereby the order intake agent~~ which obtains the order information from the order placing device, and obtains payment for the merchandise on behalf of the seller.

2. (Original) The settlement system set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

the order information includes such buyer information as to specify the buyer.

3. (Original) The settlement system set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

the order placing device displays the order information in the form of a barcode, and

the order-intake agent device obtains the order information by scanning the barcode displayed in the order placing device.

4. (Original) The settlement system set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

the order-intake agent device inputs settlement completion information indicative of completion of settlement of payment for the order to the order placing device.

5. (Currently Amended) A settlement method ~~in which, when a buyer orders merchandise for a seller, an order intake agent receives an order for the merchandise placed by the buyer and payment for the merchandise on behalf of the seller, wherein~~ comprising the steps of:

~~the buyer uses~~ storing, in an order placing device, to store order information ~~inclusive of such~~ including merchandise information ~~as to specify~~ specifying the merchandise that the buyer orders; ~~and~~

~~the seller uses~~ obtaining, using an order-intake agent device, the order information from the order placing device and providing the order information to the seller; and ~~so that the order intake agent obtains the order information from the order placing device~~ receiving, using the order-intake agent device, payment for the merchandise from the buyer on behalf of the seller.

6. (Original) The order placing device set forth in Claim 1, further comprising a barcode display section for displaying the order information in the form of a barcode.

7. (Currently Amended) An information providing device used in a settlement system of claim 1, in which, when a buyer orders merchandise for a seller, an order intake agent receives an order for the merchandise placed by the buyer and payment for the merchandise on behalf of the seller, the device whereby the buyer offers to a communications network such merchandise information as to specify the merchandise that the buyer orders for providing the order placing device with a barcode image generated in accordance with display section specs of the order placing device and the merchandise information.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) A settlement system which settles payment for merchandise which a buyer orders ~~for~~ from a seller on behalf of the seller, comprising:

a terminal for displaying such merchandise information as to specify the merchandise that the buyer orders; and

a settlement device for ~~executing settlement of~~ receiving payment for the ordered merchandise based on the merchandise information displayed in the terminal.

10. (Original) The settlement system set forth in Claim 9, wherein:

the settlement device includes a scanner section for scanning display of the terminal.

11. (Original) The Settlement system set forth in Claim 9, wherein:

the terminal includes an input section for receiving input of a code of the merchandise information.

12. (Original) The settlement system set forth in Claim 9, wherein:

the merchandise information displayed in the terminal includes barcode image information.

13. (Original) The settlement system set forth in Claim 9, wherein:

the settlement device transmits to the terminal settlement completion information indicating completion of settlement of the payment.

14. (Original) A settlement program which causes a computer to function as the settlement system of Claim 9.

15. (Currently Amended) A settlement method which settles payment for merchandise which a buyer orders ~~for~~ from a seller on behalf of the seller, comprising the steps of:

displaying in a terminal such merchandise information as to specify merchandise which a buyer orders; and

~~executing settlement of~~ receiving to a settlement device, on behalf of the seller, payment for the ordered merchandise based on the merchandise information displayed in the terminal.

16. (Original) A settlement program which causes a computer to execute the settlement method of Claim 15.

17. (Currently Amended) An information providing device which provides, to a terminal via a communications network, a barcode image generated in accordance with display section specs of ~~a the~~ terminal as ~~such merchandise information as to specify~~ specifying merchandise which a buyer orders, ~~to the terminal via a communications network.~~

18. (New) The settlement system of claim 1, wherein the order information stored by the order placing device is received within a communications network that is different from a communications network that obtains payment.

19. (New) The settlement method of claim 5, wherein the order information stored by the order placing device is received within a communications network that is different from a communications network that obtains payment.

20. (New) The settlement system of claim 9, wherein the merchandise information displayed on the terminal is received within a communications network that is different from a communications network that receives payment.

21. (New) The settlement method of claim 15, wherein the merchandise information displayed on the terminal is received within a communications network that is different from a communications network that receives payment.